



## United States Department of the Interior

### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ecological Services  
Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office  
6010 Hidden Valley Road, Suite 101  
Carlsbad, California 92011



In Reply Refer To:  
FWS-CP-09B0043-09TA0076

NOV 07 2008

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chair  
California Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: Letter of Support for Funding Planning Documents to Restore Buena Vista Lagoon in San Diego County, California.

Dear Chair Bosco:

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (Service) would like to express our appreciation for the California Coastal Conservancy's (Conservancy) efforts to protect and restore Buena Vista Lagoon (lagoon) in San Diego County, California. More specifically, the Service supports the Conservancy's authorization of \$600,000 to fund the preparation of preliminary engineering and environmental documents necessary to implement this project.

Land development has significantly altered the ecology of the lagoon. The combination of sediment and nutrient loading with a constructed weir at the lagoon mouth has reduced water depth and circulation in the lagoon and lead to a decline of biodiversity and increased vector (e.g., mosquito) problems. The lagoon offers an opportunity to restore marine, intertidal coastal salt marsh, and transitional wetland-upland fringe habitats. Restoration would provide a regional benefit to coastal resources, particularly many birds, fishes, and invertebrates that utilize these scarce habitats for nesting, rearing, and foraging. The Service is dedicated to this restoration effort, which is demonstrated by our participation in the Buena Vista Lagoon Working Group, contribution of funds towards project planning, and partnership with the Conservancy and California Department of Fish and Game to prepare a joint Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement for the project.

Please contact Carolyn Lieberman of my staff at 760-931-9440, extension 240, if you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Scott A. Sobiech  
Deputy Field Supervisor





Linda S. Adams  
Secretary for  
Environmental Protection

Exhibit 4: Project Letters  
**California Regional Water Quality Control Board**  
**San Diego Region**

Over 50 Years Serving San Diego, Orange, and Riverside Counties  
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Governor

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(858) 467-2952 • Fax (858) 571-6972  
[http:// www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego)

November 13, 2008

In reply refer to: **WMC:17-0015.02:bpost**

Mr. Douglas Bosco  
Chair, California Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Bosco:

**SUBJECT: BUENA VISTA LAGOON RESTORATION**

I understand that, at its December 4, 2008 meeting, the California Coastal Conservancy board will consider authorization of \$600,000 for preparation of preliminary engineering and environmental documents for restoration of Buena Vista Lagoon. The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (SDRWQCB) strongly supports restoration of Buena Vista Lagoon and the proposed authorization of funding in support of restoration.

Buena Vista Lagoon is one of several ecologically important coastal lagoons in the San Diego region. Restoration of the lagoon is a priority project of the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project, in which the SDRWQCB participates. SDRWQCB also participates in the Buena Vista Lagoon Technical Advisory Committee. The SDRWQCB is working to ensure that water quality standards for Buena Vista Lagoon are met. A \$500,000 Supplemental Environmental Project to support restoration of Buena Vista Lagoon was part of the settlement agreement approved by the SDRWQCB to resolve violations associated with a discharge of untreated sewage to Buena Vista Lagoon in March and April 2007.

The heading portion of this letter includes a SDRWQCB code number noted after "In reply refer to:" In order to assist us in the processing of your correspondence please include this code number in the heading or subject line portion of all correspondence and reports to the SDRWQCB pertaining to this matter.

If you have any questions about SDRWQCB support for restoration of Buena Vista Lagoon, please contact Mr. Bruce Posthumus at 858-467-2964 or [bposthumus@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:bposthumus@waterboards.ca.gov).

Respectfully,

JOHN H. ROBERTUS  
Executive Officer

JHR:bwp

cc: Mike McCann, SDRWQCB  
Chiara Clemente, SDRWQCB

David Gibson, SDRWQCB  
Mike Porter, SDRWQCB

*California Environmental Protection Agency*



***Buena Vista Audubon Society***  
**PO Box 480**  
**Oceanside, CA 92049-0480**

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chair  
California Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

November 7, 2008

RE: Conservancy Authorization of Funds on December 4, 2008

Dear Mr. Bosco:

This letter is written in support of the California Coastal Conservancy board's authorization of \$600,000 in funds for the Buena Vista Lagoon restoration project. The funds would be used for preliminary engineering and environmental documents needed in the preparation of the Environmental Impact Report. Restoration of the Buena Vista Lagoon would return it to a coastal saltwater marsh and associated wetlands, among the most critically impacted habitats in California. The authorized funds would allow the continuation of the required environmental studies.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter of support. If you have any questions, I can be reached at (760) 942-5167 or [jmherskowitz@yahoo.com](mailto:jmherskowitz@yahoo.com).

Sincerely,

Joan Herskowitz  
Co-Chair, Conservation Committee  
Buena Vista Audubon Society